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I. ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

On 16 December 1991, in a letter addressed to the Secretary-General (A/46/788-S/23291), the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People stated the following:

"In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I should like to draw your attention , as a matter of urgency, to further attacks carried out by the Israeli Government and settlers against the Holy Places and Palestinian property in East Jerusalem and adjoining neighbourhoods.

"According to a report by the Reuters news agency dated 12 December 1991, approximately 30 Jewish settlers, protected by large numbers of police, forced an entry into six houses belonging to Palestinians in Silwan, an Arab neighbourhood situated in East Jerusalem, and expelled the occupants. The settlers moved into the neighbourhood following a decision by the Israeli Cabinet which authorized them to remain in Silwan after they had attempted for two months to dispossess Palestinian owners of their homes. According to The New York Times of 13 December, this act of usurpation was encouraged and financed by Housing Minister Ariel Sharon. As reported by the same newspaper, in the last few years, Jewish nationalist movements with Government backing have taken over houses in the Old City's Muslim and Christian quarters.

"On 7 December, the Supreme Islamic Committee of Jerusalem published a statement in which it pointed out that the Israeli authorities, under the supervision of high-ranking police officials, had closed the portal of the mosque of the Ottoman School, a famous Islamic site situated in the precinct of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. According to the Supreme Islamic Committee, Israel was thereby attempting to conceal work carried out by the Israeli authorities in a gallery situated in the western part of the Haram al-Sharif wall, inside the precinct of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and was also trying to prevent the Islamic Waqf from closing the passage leading to the gallery.

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"On 19 November, the Information Centre on Human Rights in Palestine, which is based in Jerusalem, reported that on the previous day, Israeli information officers and elements from the special forces and frontier guards had broken into the Islamic Court and other premises situated in Salah el-Din Street in East Jerusalem and that they had seized archives dating back 500 years and connected with the history of Jerusalem, some of which related to the ownership of land and buildings.

"On behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I should like to express the gravest concern at these acts by the Israeli authorities and settlers, which constitute on the part of Israel a violation of its obligations as the occupying Power under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949. These acts are also contrary to the provisions of numerous Security Council resolutions, particularly resolutions 271 (1969), 298 (1971) and 476 (1980), concerning the Holy Places and religious buildings in Jerusalem, and resolutions 446 (1979), 452 (1979) and 465 (1980), concerning settlement activities by Israel, and they represent a serious obstruction to the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

"The Committee therefore addresses an urgent appeal to you as well as all the parties concerned to see that all the necessary measures are taken in order to induce Israel, the occupying Power, to put an end to all its illegal settlement activities, ensure respect for the Holy Places and guarantee protection of the Palestinians and their property in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem."

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AT THE FORTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On 21 November 1991, the General Assembly took up consideration of the question of Palestine.

The agenda item was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The Rapporteur of the Committee then introduced its annual report. The full texts of both statements are presented below: (See A/46/PV.51, pp. 2-19).

Statement by the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

"It is an honour and a privilege for me, as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to address the General Assembly and introduce the agenda item entitled 'Question of Palestine'.

"First of all, Mr. President, I wish to congratulate you on behalf of the Committee on your election to the Presidency of the Assembly at such an important time in the history of this Organization. Your diplomatic talents and your commitment to peace have been and will continue to be of great value to the smooth progress of our deliberations. Let me assure you of the Committee's full support in the performance of your duties. I should also like to take this opportunity to express thanks once again to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Guido de Marco, for the able manner in which he presided over the work of the Assembly last year and for his devotion to the Palestinian cause.

"This past year has seen historic changes and a renewed hope of seeing at last within our reach a comprehensive and just solution to the question of Palestine which has for so long been sought by the international community.

"During this session of the Assembly we have heard speaker after speaker express the hope that the new world order resulting from recent upheavals will be based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, on the primacy of law in international relations and on human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

"In action as well as in speech, the international community is demonstrating more and more clearly its desire to ensure that the new world order will live up to those hopes. This year the international community has stepped up efforts to end regional conflicts in various parts of the world, to promote democratic evolution and to lay foundations that will make it possible at last to take a concerted approach to solving the problems common to the human race.

"The end of the cold war, the new spirit of international cooperation and recent developments in the Middle East region have, for the first time in the long history of the Palestinian conflict, created conditions favourable to direct negotiations between the parties concerned.

"Our Committee has considered that development most encouraging and felt that it opened up promising possibilities for international action in aid of the Palestinian people, despite the serious deterioration of the situation in occupied Palestinian territory and despite the suffering and the upheavals experienced by the Palestinian people during and after the conflict in the Persian Gulf.

"I should like to recall that, since the partition of Palestine decided upon by this Assembly 44 years ago, the international community has not been able to bring about the full application of the principles of the Charter to the Palestinian people. After the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in the early 1970s, the General Assembly set up our Committee, thus demonstrating its determination to correct the imbalance resulting from the creation of only one of the two States that had been called for in the resolution on the partition of Palestine. Although endorsed by the General Assembly, the Committee's recommendations for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions adopted by the Organization have not yet been implemented. Nevertheless the Committee has continued to work ceaselessly to achieve that end and to foster a better understanding of the question in international public opinion.

"During the past few years, particularly since the beginning of the intifadah, which was followed by the declaration of the independence of Palestine and by the 1988 peace initiative, a foundation for international consensus on the key elements of the problem and the modalities for its solution has been laid.

"The central importance of the Palestinian question in finding a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the fact that the Palestinians are a people with the right to the realization and exercise of their national rights are now realities no longer contested by anyone.

"Considering therefore that the international community's most urgent task is to break the diplomatic and political deadlock that has resulted in so much suffering in recent years, our Committee has expressed its support for the peace initiative encouraged by the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The Committee sincerely trusts that the Conference convened in Madrid at the end of October last will result in agreements that will

meet the needs and aspirations of all parties, and permit the Palestinian people to exercise its rights. The Committee is convinced that this represents an unprecedented, historic opportunity and calls on all parties to display political courage and the necessary readiness for compromise so that the common objective, a just and lasting peace for all the countries in the region, may be attained.

"Israel can and must contribute to this aim, by immediately improving the conditions faced by the Palestinians in the occupied territories. The Committee once again calls urgently on Israel to abide by its obligations as occupying Power under the 1949 Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of war. Our Committee's report, which the Rapporteur will soon be submitting in detail, contains overwhelming information in this connection. Far from being biased, as is claimed by some, the information is based on data collected by organizations that enjoy respect in the field of human rights, on articles that have appeared in the Israeli and Palestinian press and on documents published by Governments, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts who have taken part in meetings held under the auspices of the Committee.

"Solving the Palestinian problem would enable an end to be put to Israel's repression of the intifadah, the uprising that is largely the work of young people armed only with stones. Israel's repression of this symbol of the Palestinian people's resistance had, by 31 July 1991, resulted in the death of 966 Palestinians, at least 47 of them killed in clandestine operations carried out by the Israeli Defence Forces. More than 111,000 Palestinians were wounded in the same period, with children accounting for a quarter of the victims.

"Since the beginning of the intifadah, more than 75,000 Palestinians have been detained for varying periods of time, 14,000 under administrative detention orders - that is, without trial or indictment. The incarceration rate in the occupied territory is reported to be the highest in the world. It has also been reported that torture continues to be used as an interrogation method, and information has been received of such ill-treatment in prison and detention camps that it has led to repeated hunger strikes.

"Collective punishment has continued to be a cause of great suffering for the population and of major destruction. Thus, during the Gulf War, at a time when medicines and food

were in short supply, curfews, some of them round-the-clock and long-lasting, were imposed on hundreds of thousands of Palestinians. Since the beginning of the intifadah, more than 2,000 Palestinian houses and other buildings have been demolished or sealed up and some 120,000 trees have been uprooted. Very harsh restrictions have been placed on the movement of Palestinians living under the occupation regime, resulting in widespread unemployment. It is estimated that by April 1991 100,000 Palestinians had lost their jobs with Israeli employers, and for the greater part of the intifadah schools have been closed; and most students have been deprived of their right to education for the past four years.

"It is the responsibility of the international community and, in particular that of the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, to ensure the re-establishment of respect for human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory. This is an urgent task that we must carry out without waiting for progress in the peace process. Recourse to deadly force against unarmed civilian persons must stop. Schools and universities must be reopened. Political prisoners must be freed. Collective punishments must cease. An improvement of the human rights situation in the occupied territory is bound to make a useful contribution to the peace process.

"The Committee's report points out that since the beginning of the intifadah Israel has confiscated some 500 square kilometres of land in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. Since it seized the territory in 1967, Israel has expropriated approximately 60 per cent of Palestinian lands. More than 200,000 settlers now reside in 170 rural and urban settlements in the occupied territory, including expanded East Jerusalem. This process of creeping annexation, which can also be seen in roadbuilding and the diversion of water resources for the use of Israel and Israeli settlers at the expense of the Palestinians, has accelerated in the past few months. These activities are an obstacle to peace and a source of constant conflict in the region. They are also in violation of the Fourth Geneva convention, and therefore have been condemned by the Security Council, the General Assembly and the entire international community.

"It is therefore of the utmost importance that all the confiscations of the land and the settlement activities by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, be halted.

"In addition to the necessary protection and emergency assistance measures, the international community must do all in its power to stop the rapid deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people and establish the socio-economic infrastructure needed for real development of the occupied Palestinian territory in preparation for its emergence as an independent nation.

"Although there are peace initiatives under way, the Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People has been alarmed by the steady deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, and has therefore made every effort to mobilize public opinion.

"At the same time, the Committee has done its best to contribute to the creation of a climate favourable to the peace process, by encouraging open and constructive discussions between experts representing all parties and all shades of opinion, including Palestinians and Israelis. In 1991, a European Regional Seminar was held at Madrid in May; it was followed in June by the North-American Regional Non-Governmental Organization Symposium at Montreal, and in August by the European Regional Non-Governmental Organization Symposium and the International Non-Governmental Organization Meeting at Vienna. An Asian regional seminar and a non-governmental organization meeting are being prepared and will be held at Nicosia in January 1992.

"The Committee is very grateful to the Governments of Spain, Canada, Austria and Cyprus for the assistance they have given the Committee during the organization of these meetings. We feel that these activities are very useful and enable representatives of Governments and non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, experts and other individuals to analyse the situation, to establish contacts and to study together strategies for the future.

"The Committee, with assistance from the Division for Palestinian Rights, has continued to follow carefully the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and to report regularly to the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council. Studies and publications have come out on various aspects of the question of Palestine in order better to inform international public opinion and mobilize it. The Committee believes that the role of the Division for Palestinian Rights as a centre for information and documentation on this question should be duly recognized and

appropriately strengthened and has asked the Secretary-General to study the possibility of establishing an automated data bank to facilitate the Division's task.

"After the collapse of the Berlin Wall, another wall has begun to crumble in Madrid - that is, the wall built up by decades of fear, hatred and lack of understanding. The question of Palestine has now reached a crucial stage and the Committee and I trust that the hopes of 1991 will become reality thanks to historic decisions to be taken over the next few months. Our Committee, established to promote the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, will continue to do its utmost to ensure that that goal is finally realized through the triumph of reason and right so that justice is rendered the Palestinians and peace and security is achieved for everybody. Our Committee is resolved, within the context of the mandate given it by the General Assembly, to contribute towards the establishment in the Middle East of an honourable peace with neither victors nor vanquished."

Statement by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

"It is an honour and a privilege for me in my capacity as Rapporteur to present to the General Assembly the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People covering its work during the past year.

"In 1991 the Committee, under the able guidance of its Chairman, Her Excellency Ambassador Absa Claude Diallo, diligently carried out its mandate in conformity with the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.

"This has been a year of momentous change internationally and in the Middle East region itself, with great consequences for the question of Palestine, and the Committee has closely monitored these developments and has taken them into account in its report.

"In the introduction to the report, the Committee stresses the urgent need to bring about a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine in the light of the deteriorating situation of Palestinians in the occupied territory and the intensification of repressive measures and of the policy of annexation of Palestinian and Arab land pursued by Israel. The report reaffirms that this

policy and the continued denial of Palestinian rights are the principal obstacles to the achievement of a just peace. At the same time, the Committee recognizes that new opportunities now exist and calls for intensified efforts to bring about a solution based on international law, the United Nations Charter and United Nations resolutions, which must be applied in an even-handed manner.

"Chapters II and III of the report are procedural and summarize the respective mandates of the Committee, the Division for Palestinian Rights and the Department of Public Information; they also give information on the organization of work of the Committee.

"The action taken by the Committee in 1991 is described in chapter IV of the report. The Committee has monitored the situation in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, on an ongoing basis through the media and the reports of United Nations organs and agencies, as well as through information collected by Governments, non-governmental organizations, individual experts, including Israelis and Palestinians, who participated in meetings held under the auspices of the Committee, and other sources. The Committee also received repeated appeals from Palestinians living under occupation drawing attention to their situation and calling for international protection.

"The Committee notes with deep concern that in its efforts to suppress the intifadah Israel has continued to resort to the use of often excessive and indiscriminate force, including shooting at demonstrators, the misuse of tear-gas and punitive beatings. Human rights organizations have also alleged the use of extrajudicial executions as a means of controlling unrest, and the use of torture as an interrogation method. The incarceration rate of Palestinians in the occupied territory is reported to be the highest known anywhere in the world. Thousands of Palestinians remain imprisoned without charges on trial.

"Information is also given on the expanded confiscation of land and settlement activity by Israel, as well as on a variety of measures which have taken aim at restricting and damaging Palestinian economic activity. The violations of the rights to education, health, freedom of association, and other aspects of the occupation are also briefly described. The chapter concludes with an urgent appeal for the international protection of Palestinians living under occupation and for the provision of emergency relief as well as development assistance.

"As the Assembly is aware, the Committee is mandated to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly and the Security Council on an ongoing basis with regard to developments relating to the question of Palestine. In several letters, which have been issued as documents of the General Assembly and the security Council and which are listed in section A.2 of the report, the Chairman reported on specific incidents of particular gravity and made recommendations for action by the United Nations and the International community as a whole.

"The same section also contains an account of the Committee's participation in meetings of the Security Council relating to its mandate, and of the decisions taken by the Council on this issue during the year. Reference is also made to the visit of Mr. Guido de Marco, President of the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, to the Palestinian refugees in the occupied territories and in Jordan. The report of the President of the General Assembly was circulated earlier this year as a document of the General Assembly at the request of the Committee.

"In its programme of work for 1991, the Committee decided to continue to give the utmost priority to promoting the early convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with resolution 45/68 of 6 December 1990 and to take an active role in the search for peace. In order to promote this goal, the Committee participated in a number of international meetings and organized, in cooperation with the Division for Palestinian Rights, a regional seminar, two non-governmental-organization symposia and an international meeting of non-governmental organizations, as already mentioned by the Chairman. In these activities, the Committee decided to focus on the following priority issues, in addition to the objective of convening the peace conference: the need to support the intifadah and to provide international protection for the Palestinian people, and the problem posed by increasing Jewish immigration and Israel's settlement policy.

"The Committee was encouraged by the active participation in these activities of prominent political personages, parliamentarians, policy makers and other experts, including Israelis and Palestinians, and of committed and knowledgeable non-governmental-organization representatives. The Committee believes that these meetings make a positive contribution to peace efforts by providing a forum for a balanced and constructive discussion of all

the issues. Participants have expressed support for the Committee's ideas for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, particularly through the 'land-for-peace' formula, the 'two peoples, two States' principle and the convening of the peace conference, and have called for appropriate measures to end violations of human rights and ensure respect for the Geneva Convention. The Committee also noted that non-governmental organizations have intensified their activities to assist the Palestinian people and to promote a just and comprehensive peace.

"Finally, information is also given on the activities of the Division for Palestinian Rights in the field of research, information and publications and on the commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

"Chapter V of the report covers the work of the Department of Public Information in accordance with resolution 45/67 C, including the publications and audiovisual activities of the Department, encounters for journalists and news missions to the area.

"Chapter VI, the last chapter of the report, contains the recommendations of the Committee. In this chapter the Committee expresses its continued and full support for the intifadah, the courageous struggle of the Palestinian people to end Israeli occupation and implement the proclamation of independence of November 1988. The Committee reaffirms the international consensus that full respect for and realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are indispensable for the solution of the question of Palestine. It calls on Israel to recognize and respect Palestinian rights and appeals to all progressive forces in Israel to further intensify their efforts in this regard.

"The Committee welcomes the convening by the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of a conference for the achievement of a comprehensive peace based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and on the land-for-peace principle, and expresses the earnest hope that such a conference will bring about a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine based on internationally recognized principles and United Nations resolutions. The Committee also expresses the hope that the role of the United Nations will be generally intensified in this process.

"The Committee recalls that an international consensus has already been achieved on the essential principles for such a solution. The Committee annexes to the report its original recommendations, which spelled out modalities for the attainment of Palestinian rights and which were endorsed by the General Assembly in 1976 and in subsequent years. These were later complemented by the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine held at Geneva in 1983. The intifadah and the Palestinian peace initiative of 1988 led to an even broader consensus, as shown once again by the near-unanimous adoption last year of resolution 45/68, in which the Assembly called once again for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing, and the five permanent members of the Security Council, based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination. The Committee also recalls the principles for the achievement of comprehensive peace contained in the resolution, namely, Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories, including Jerusalem; guaranteeing security arrangements for all States in the region; resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees; dismantling Israeli settlements; and guaranteeing freedom of access to the Holy Places, religious buildings and sites.

"Pending progress towards a political settlement, the Committee calls with the utmost urgency for all necessary measures to protect the Palestinian people and ensure that Israel respects its obligations under the Geneva Convention and United Nations resolutions, and calls in particular on the Security Council to take action to end Israeli confiscation and settlement of Palestinian land. The Committee also calls for increased international assistance to the Palestinian people in preparation for the future exercise of national sovereignty.

"Finally, the Committee pledges to continue and intensify its efforts in implementation of its mandate, and calls on all Governments, including those of the United States and Israel, to participate in its work and in the events organized under its auspices. The Committee trusts that the Assembly will once again endorse its recommendations and support its work as it has done every year since its establishment."

Note: All resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and Security Council in 1991 relating to the question of Palestine will be issued in due course in document A/AC.183/L.2/Add.12.

III. ADOPTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RESOLUTIONS ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

The following resolutions on the question of Palestine were adopted by the General Assembly at its 69th plenary meeting on 11 December 1991:

"46/74. Question of Palestine

"A

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976, 32/40 of 2 December 1977, 33/28 of 7 December 1978, 34/65 A and B of 29 November 1979 and 34/65 C and D of 12 December 1979, ES-7/2 of 29 July 1980, 35/169 of 15 December 1980, 36/120 of 10 December 1981, ES-7/4 of 28 April 1982, 38/58 A of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A of 2 December 1987, 43/175 A of 15 December 1988, 44/41 A of 6 December 1989 and 45/67 A of 6 December 1990,

"Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, 1/

"1. Expresses its appreciation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly;

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/46/35).

"2. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee contained in paragraphs 87 to 95 of its report and draws the attention of the Security Council to the fact that action on the Committee's recommendations, as repeatedly endorsed by the General Assembly at its thirty-first session and subsequently, is still awaited;

"3. Requests the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine as well as the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Achievement of Palestinian Rights 2/ and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly or the Security Council, as appropriate;

"4. Authorizes the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the implementation of its recommendations, including representation at conferences and meetings and the sending of delegations, to make such adjustments in its approved programme of seminars and symposia and meetings for non-governmental organizations as it may consider necessary, to give special emphasis to the need to mobilize public opinion in Europe and North America, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session and thereafter;

"5. Also requests the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation to non-governmental organizations in their contribution towards heightening international awareness of the facts relating to the question of Palestine and creating a more favourable atmosphere for the full implementation of the Committee's recommendations, and to take the necessary steps to expand its contacts with those organizations;

"6. Requests the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), as well as other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine, to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

2/ Report of the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, Geneva, 29 August-7 September 1983, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.83.I.21), chap. I, sect. B.

"7. Decides to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate, in accordance with the Committee's programme of implementation;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks."

"B

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, 1/

"Taking note, in particular of the relevant information contained in paragraphs 53 to 74 of the report,

"Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977, 33/28 C of 7 December 1978, 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, 35/169 D of 15 December 1980, 36/120 B of 10 December 1981, 37/86 B of 10 December 1982, 38/58 B of 13 December 1983, 39/49 B of 11 December 1984, 40/96 B of 12 December 1985, 41/43 B of 2 December 1986, 42/66 B of 2 December 1987, 43/175 B of 15 December 1988, 44/41 B of 6 December 1989 and 45/67 B of 6 December 1990,

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with General Assembly resolution 45/67 B;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat with the necessary resources, including a computer-based information system, and to ensure that it continues to discharge the tasks detailed in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B, paragraph 2 (b) of resolution 34/65 D, paragraph 3 of resolution 36/120 B, paragraph 3 of resolution 38/58 B, paragraph 3 of resolution 40/96 B, paragraph 2 of resolution 42/66 B and paragraph 2 of resolution 44/41 B, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance;

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/46/35).

"3. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division for Palestinian Rights to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

"4. Invites all Governments and organizations to lend their cooperation to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Division for Palestinian Rights in the performance of their tasks;

"5. Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by Member States to observe annually on 29 November the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People."

"C

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, 1/

"Taking note, in particular, of the information contained in paragraphs 75 to 86 of that report,

"Recalling its resolutions 45/67 C and 45/68 of 6 December 1990,

"Convinced that the world-wide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of non-governmental organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent sovereign Palestinian State,

"1. Takes note with appreciation of the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with General Assembly resolution 45/67 C;

1/ Ibid.

"2. Requests the Department of Public Information, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme on the question of Palestine for the biennium 1992-1993 with particular emphasis on public opinion in Europe and North America and, in particular:

"(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports of the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organs;

"(b) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine, including Israeli violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arab inhabitants of the occupied territories as reported by the relevant United Nations organs;

"(c) To expand its audio-visual material on the question of Palestine, including the production of such material;

"(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including to the occupied territories;

"(e) To organize international, regional and national encounters for journalists."

"46/75. International Peace Conference on the Middle East

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 8 November 1991, 1/

"Having heard the statement made on 21 November 1991 by the chairman of the observer delegation of Palestine, 2/

1/ A/46/623.

2/ See A/46/PV.51.

"Stressing that achieving a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict, the core of which is the question of Palestine, will constitute a significant contribution to international peace and security,

"Aware of the overwhelming support for the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East, and noting the endeavours of the Secretary-General in this regard,

"Noting the convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East in Madrid on 30 October 1991,

"Preoccupied by the increasingly serious situation in the occupied Palestinian territory as a result of persistent policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power,

"Aware of the ongoing uprising (intifadah) of the Palestinian people since 9 December 1987, aimed at ending Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory occupied since 1967,

"1. Reaffirms the urgent need to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the core of which is the question of Palestine;

"2. Considers that the convening of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing, and the five permanent members of the Security Council, based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination, would contribute to the promotion of peace in the region;

"3. Reaffirms the following principles for the achievement of comprehensive peace:

"(a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and from the other occupied Arab territories;

"(b) Guaranteeing arrangements for security of all States in the region, including those named in resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, within secure and internationally recognized boundaries;

"(c) Resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, and subsequent relevant resolutions;

"(d) Dismantling the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967;

"(e) Guaranteeing freedom of access to Holy Places, religious buildings and sites;

"4. Welcomes the convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East in Madrid on 30 October 1991, which constitutes a significant step towards the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region;

"5. Notes the expressed desire and endeavours to place the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, under the supervision of the United Nations for a transitional period, as part of the peace process;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, for the promotion of peace in the region, and to submit progress reports on development in this matter."

"46/76. The uprising (intifadah) of the Palestinian people

"The General Assembly,

"Aware of the uprising (intifadah) of the Palestinian people since 9 December 1987 against Israeli occupation, which has received significant attention and sympathy from world public opinion,

"Deeply concerned at the alarming situation in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, as a result of the continued occupation by Israel, the occupying Power, and of its persistent policies and practices against the Palestinian people,

"Reaffirming that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 1/ is applicable to the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, and to the other occupied Arab territories,

"Expressing its profound shock at the continued measures by Israel, the occupying Power, including the killing and wounding of Palestinian civilians, and at the acts of violence committed by the Israeli security forces, which took place on 8 October 1990 at the Haram al-Sharif in Jerusalem, resulting in injuries and loss of human lives, and on 29 December 1990 at Rafah,

"Stressing the need to promote international protection to the Palestinian civilians in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"Recognizing the need for increased support to, and aid for and solidarity with the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation,

"Having considered the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretary-General of 21 January 1988, 2/ 31 October 1990 3/ and 9 April 1991,

"Recalling its relevant resolutions as well as the relevant Security Council resolutions, and in particular Security Council resolution 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990, which requested in paragraph 6 'the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to develop further the idea expressed in his report of convening a meeting of the high contracting parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention and to discuss possible measures that might be taken by them under the Convention and for this purpose to invite the parties to submit their views on how the idea could contribute to the goals of the Convention, as well as on other relevant matters, and to report thereon to the Council',

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1/ United Nations, Treaty series, vol. 75, No. 973.

2/ S/19443; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1988, document S/19443.

3/ S/21919 and Corr. 1; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-fifth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1990, document S/21919.

"1. Condemns those policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem and, in particular, such acts as the opening of fire by the Israeli army and settlers that result in the killing and wounding of defenceless Palestinian civilians, the beating and breaking of bones, the deportation of Palestinian civilians, the imposition of restrictive economic measures, the demolition of houses, the ransacking of real or personal property belonging individually or collectively to private persons, collective punishment and detentions, and so forth;

"2. Demands that Israel, the occupying Power, abide scrupulously by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and desist immediately from those policies and practices which are in violation of the provisions of the Convention;

"3. Calls upon all the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to ensure respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the Convention in all circumstances, in conformity with their obligation under article 1 thereof;

"4. Urges all the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Convention to respond to the note verbale submitted to them by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990;

"5. Strongly deplores the continuing disregard by Israel, the occupying Power, of the relevant decisions of the Security Council;

"6. Reaffirms that the occupation by Israel of the Palestinian territory since 1967, including Jerusalem, and of the other Arab territories in no way changes the legal status of those territories;

"7. Requests the Security Council to examine with urgency the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory with a view to considering measures needed to provide international protection to the Palestinian civilians in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

"8. Invites Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and the mass communications media to continue and enhance their support for the Palestinian people;

"9. Requests the Secretary-General to examine the present situation in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, by all means available to him and to submit periodic reports thereon, the first such report as soon as possible."

IV. GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

At its 73rd plenary meeting, on 16 December 1991, the General Assembly adopted the following resolutions:

"46/82. The situation in the Middle East

"A

"The General Assembly,

"Having discussed the item entitled 'The situation in the Middle East',

"Recalling its resolutions 36/226 A and B of 17 December 1981, ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, 37/123 F of 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 38/180 A to D of 19 December 1983, 39/146 A to C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 A to C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 A to C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 A to D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 A to C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 A to C of 4 December 1989, 45/83 A to C of 13 December 1990 and 45/68 of 6 December 1990,

"Recalling Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982, 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982, 701 (1991) of 31 July 1991 and other relevant resolutions,

"Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General of 22 October 1991, 1/ 8 November 1991 2/ and 15 November 1991, 3/

1/ A/46/586.

2/ A/46/623-S/23204 and Corr.1.

3/ A/46/652-S/23225.

"Reaffirming the need for continued collective support for the decisions adopted by the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, held at Fez, Morocco, on 25 November 1981 and from 6 to 9 September 1982, 4/ which were confirmed by subsequent Arab summit conferences, including the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca, Morocco, from 23 to 26 May 1989,

"Reiterating its previous resolutions on the question of Palestine and its support for the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people,

"Welcoming all efforts contributing towards the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people through the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, in accordance with the United Nations resolutions relating to the question of Palestine and to the situation in the Middle East, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973,

"Welcoming also the world-wide support extended to the just cause of the Palestinian people and the other Arab countries in their struggle against Israeli aggression and occupation in order to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East and the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights, as affirmed by previous resolutions of the General Assembly on the question of Palestine and on the situation in the Middle East,

"Gravely concerned that the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories still remain under Israeli occupation, that the relevant resolutions of the United Nations have not been implemented and that the Palestinian people is still denied the restoration of its land and the exercise of its inalienable national rights in conformity with international law, as reaffirmed by resolutions of the United Nations,

"Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of war, of 12 August 1949, 5/ to the Palestinian territory occupied since

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4/ See A/37/696-S/15510, annex. For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-seventh Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1982, document S/15510, annex.

5/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories,

"Reaffirming also all relevant United Nations resolutions which stipulate that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law and that Israel must withdraw unconditionally from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories,

"Gravely concerned also at Israeli policies involving the escalation and expansion of the conflict in the region, which further violate the principles of international law and endanger international peace and security,

"Reaffirming further the imperative necessity and urgency of establishing a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region, based on full respect for the Charter and the principles of international law,

"1. Reaffirms its conviction that the question of Palestine is the core of the conflict in the Middle East and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region will be achieved without the full exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable national rights and the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories;

"2. Reaffirms that a just and comprehensive settlement of the situation in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the participation on an equal footing of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people;

"3. Declares once more that peace in the Middle East is indivisible and must be based on a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the Middle East problem under the auspices of the United Nations and on the basis of its relevant resolutions, which ensures the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories, and which enables the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to exercise its inalienable rights, including the right to return and the right to self-determination, national independence and the establishment of its independent sovereign State in Palestine, in accordance with the

resolutions of the United Nations relating to the question of Palestine, in particular General Assembly resolutions ES/7/2 of 29 July 1980, 36/120 A to F of 10 December 1981, 37/86 A to D of 10 December 1982, 37/86 E of 20 December 1982, 38/58 A to E of 13 December 1983, 39/49 A to D of 11 December 1984, 40/96 A to D of 12 December 1985, 41/43 A to D of 2 December 1986, 42/66 A to D of 2 December 1987, 43/54 A to C of 6 December 1988, and 43/175 A to C, 43/176, 43/177 of 15 December 1988, 44/42 of 6 December 1989 and 45/68 of 6 December 1990;

"4. Considers the Arab peace plan adopted unanimously at the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference, held at Fez, Morocco, on 25 November 1981 and from 6 to 9 September 1982 6/ which was confirmed by subsequent Arab summit conferences, including the Extraordinary Arab Summit Conference held at Casablanca, Morocco, from 23 to 26 May 1989, as an important contribution towards the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people through the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

"5. Condemns Israel's continued occupation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and demands the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of Israel from all the territories occupied since 1967;

"6. Rejects all agreements and arrangements which violate the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and contradict the principles of a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem to ensure the establishment of a just peace in the area;

"7. Deplores Israel's failure to comply with Security Council resolutions 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980 and 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980 and General Assembly resolutions 35/207 of 16 December 1980 and 36/226 A and B of 17 December 1981; determines that Israel's decision to annex Jerusalem and to declare it as its 'capital' as well as the measures to alter its physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and status are null and void and demands that they be rescinded immediately, and calls upon all Member States, the specialized agencies and all other international organizations to abide by the present resolution and all other relevant resolutions and decisions;

6/ Ibid.

"8. Condemns Israel's aggression, policies and practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and outside this territory, including expropriation, establishment of settlements, annexation and other aggressive and repressive measures, which are in violation of the Charter and the principles of international law and the relevant international conventions;

"9. Strongly condemns the imposition by Israel of its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, its annexationist policies and practices, the establishment of settlements, the confiscation of lands, the diversion of water resources and the imposition of Israeli citizenship on Syrian nationals, and declares that all these measures are null and void and constitute a violation of the rules and principles of international law relative to belligerent occupation, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

"10. Calls upon all States not to provide Israel with any assistance to be used specifically in connection with settlements in the occupied territories;

"11. Strongly deplores the continuing and increasing collaboration between Israel and South Africa, especially in the economic, military and nuclear fields, which constitutes a hostile act against the African and Arab States and enables Israel to enhance its nuclear capabilities;

"12. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council periodically on the development of the situation and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session a comprehensive report covering the developments in the Middle East pertaining to the present resolution."

"B

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 36/120 E of 10 December 1981, 37/123 C of 16 December 1982, 38/180 C of 19 December 1983, 39/146 C of 14 December 1984, 40/168 C of 16 December 1985, 41/162 C of 4 December 1986, 42/209 D of 11 December 1987, 43/54 C of 6 December 1988, 44/40 C of 6 December 1989 and 45/83 C of

13 December 1990, in which it determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which had altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

"Recalling Security Council resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the 'Basic Law' and called upon those States that had established diplomatic missions at Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 22 October 1991, 1/

"1. Determines that Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem is illegal and therefore null and void and has no validity whatsoever;

"2. Deplores the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980), and their refusal to comply with the provisions of that resolution;

"3. Calls once more upon those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the charter of the United Nations;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution."

1/ A/46/586.

V. GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON ISRAELI PRACTICES IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

At its 66th plenary meeting on 9 December 1991, the General Assembly adopted the following resolutions:

"46/47. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

"A

"The General Assembly,

"Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and by the principles and provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/

"Aware of the uprising (intifadah) of the Palestinian people since 9 December 1987 against Israeli occupation, which has received significant attention and sympathy from world public opinion,

"Deeply concerned at the alarming situation in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, as well as in the other occupied Arab territories, as a result of their continued occupation by Israel, the occupying Power, and of its persistent policies against the Palestinian people,

"Bearing in mind the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 2/ as well as of other relevant conventions and regulations,

"Taking into account the need to consider measures for the impartial protection of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation,

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1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

"Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, in particular resolutions 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988, 608 (1988) of 14 January 1988, 636 (1989) of 6 July 1989, 641 (1989) of 30 August (1989), 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990, 673 (1990) of 24 October 1990 and 694 (1991) of 24 May 1991,

"Recalling specifically Security Council resolution 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990, in which the Council requested in paragraph 6 'the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, to develop further the idea, expressed in his report, of convening a meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the [Fourth Geneva] Convention to discuss possible measures that might be taken by them under the Convention and, for this purpose, to invite the Parties to submit their views on how the idea could contribute to the goals of the Convention, as well as other relevant matters, and to report thereon to the Council',

"Recalling also all its resolutions on the subject, in particular resolutions 32/91 B and C of 13 December 1977, 33/113 C of 18 December 1978, 34/90 A of 12 December 1979, 35/122 C of 11 December 1980, 36/147 C of 16 December 1981, ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, 37/88 C of 10 December 1982, 38/79 D of 15 December 1983, 39/95 D of 14 December 1984, 40/161 D of 16 December 1985, 41/63 D of 3 December 1986, 42/160 D of 8 December 1987, 43/21 of 3 November 1988, 43/58 A of 6 December 1988, 44/2 of 6 October 1989, 44/48 A of 8 December 1989 and 45/74 A of 11 December 1990,

"Recalling further the relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, in particular its resolutions 1983/1 of 15 February 1983, 3/ 1984/1 of 20 February 1984, 4/ 1985/1 A and B and 1985/2 of 19 February 1985, 5/ 1986/1 A and B and

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3/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1983, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum (E/1983/13 and Corr. 1), chap. XXVII, sect. A.

4/ Ibid., 1984, Supplement No. 4 and corrigendum (E/1984/14 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

5/ Ibid., 1985, Supplement No. 2 (E/1985/22), chap. II, Sect. A.

1986/2 of 20 February 1986, 6/ 1987/1, 1987/2 A and B and 1987/4 of 19 February 1987, 7/ 1988/1 A and B and 1988/2 of 15 February 1988 and 1988/3 of 22 February 1988, 8/ 1989/1 of 17 February 1989, 1989/2 of 17 February 1989 and 1989/19 of 6 March 1989, 9/ 1990/1 of 16 February 1990, 1990/2 of 16 February 1990, 1990/3 of 16 February 1990, 1990/6 of 19 February 1990 10/ and 1991/1 A and B, 1991/3 and 1991/6 of 15 February 1991, 11/

"Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, 12/ which contain, inter alia, self-incriminating public statements made by officials of Israel, the occupying Power,

"Having also considered the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 13/

"1. Commends the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality,

"2. Deplores the continued refusal by Israel to allow the Special Committee access to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

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6/ Ibid., 1986, Supplement No. 2 (E/1986/22), chap. II, sect. A.

7/ Ibid., 1987, Supplement No. 5 and corrigenda (E/1987/18 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

8/ Ibid., 1988, Supplement No. 2 (E/1988/12), chap. II, sect. A.

9/ Ibid., 1989, Supplement No. 2 (E/1989/20), chap. II, sect. A.

10/ Ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 2 (E/1990/22), chap. II, sect. A.

11/ Ibid., 1991, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1991/22 and Corr. 1), chap. II, sect. A.

12/ A/46/65, A/46/282 and A/46/522.

13/ S/19443, S/21919 and Corr. 1, S/22472 and A/46/521.

"3. Demands that Israel allow the Special Committee access to the occupied territories,

"4. Reaffirms the fact that occupation itself constitutes a grave violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"5. Condemns the continued and persistent violation by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and other applicable international instruments, and condemns in particular those violations which the Convention designates as 'grave breaches' thereof,

"6. Declares once more that Israel's grave breaches of that Convention are war crimes and an affront to humanity,

"7. Reaffirms, in accordance with the Convention, that the Israeli military occupation of the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories is of a temporary nature, thus giving no right whatsoever to the occupying Power over the territorial integrity of the occupied territories,

"8. Strongly condemns the following Israeli policies and practices,

"(a) Annexation of parts of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem;

"(b) Imposition of Israeli laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory;

"(c) Illegal imposition and levy of taxes and dues;

"(d) Establishment of new Israeli settlements and expansion of the existing ones on private and public Palestinian and other Arab lands, and transfer of an alien population thereto;

"(e) Eviction, deportation, expulsion, displacement and transfer of Palestinians and other Arabs from the occupied territories and denial of their right to return;

"(f) Confiscation and expropriation of private and public Palestinian and other Arab property in the occupied territories and all other transactions for the acquisition of land by Israeli authorities, institutions or nationals;

"(g) Excavation and transformation of the landscape and the historical, cultural and religious sites, especially at Jerusalem;

"(h) Pillaging of archaeological and cultural property;

"(i) Destruction and demolition of Palestinian and other Arab houses;

"(j) Collective punishment, mass arrests, administrative detention and ill-treatment of Palestinians and other Arabs;

"(k) Torture of Palestinians and other Arabs;

"(l) Interference with religious freedoms and practices, as well as family rights and customs;

"(m) Interference with the system of education and with the social and economic development and health of the Palestinians and other Arabs in the occupied territories;

"(n) Interference with the freedom of movement of individuals within the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"(o) Illegal exploitation of the natural wealth, resources and labour of the occupied territories;

"9. Also strongly condemns, in particular, the following Israeli policies and practices:

"(a) Implementation of an 'iron-fist' policy against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory;

"(b) Escalation of Israeli brutality since the beginning of the uprising (intifadah) on 9 December 1987;

"(c) Ill-treatment and torture of children and minors under detention and/or imprisonment;

"(d) Closure of headquarters and offices of trade unions and social organizations and harassment of their leaders, including through expulsion, as well as attacks on hospitals and their personnel;

"(e) Interference with the freedom of the press, including censorship, detention or expulsion of journalists, closure and suspension of newspapers and magazines, as well as denial of access to international media;

"(f) Killing and wounding of defenceless demonstrators;

"(g) Breaking of bones and limbs of thousands of civilians;

"(h) House and/or town arrests;

"(i) Use of toxic gas, which has resulted, inter alia, in the killing of many Palestinians;

"10. Condemns the Israeli repression against and closing of the educational institutions in the occupied Syrian Golan, particularly prohibiting Syrian textbooks and the Syrian educational system, preventing Syrian students from pursuing their higher education in Syrian universities, denying the right of return to Syrian students receiving their higher education in the Syrian Arab Republic, forcing Hebrew on Syrian students, imposing courses that promote hatred, prejudice and religious intolerance and dismissing teachers, all in clear violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention,

"11. Strongly condemns the arming of Israeli settlers in the occupied territories to perpetrate and commit acts of violence against Palestinians and other Arabs, causing deaths and injuries,

"12. Requests the Security Council to ensure Israel's respect for and compliance with all the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and to initiate measures to halt Israeli policies and practices in those territories,

"13. Urges the Security Council to consider the current situation in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, taking into account the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretary-General, and with a view to securing international protection for the defenceless Palestinian people until the withdrawal of Israel, the occupying Power, from the occupied Palestinian territory,

"14. Reaffirms that all measures taken by Israel to change the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure or legal status of the occupied territories, or any

part thereof, including Jerusalem, are null and void, and that Israel's policy of settling parts of its population and new immigrants in those occupied territories constitutes a flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention and of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

"15. Demands that Israel desist forthwith from the policies and practices referred to in paragraphs 8, 9, 10 and 11 above,

"16. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to allow the reopening of the Roman Catholic Medical Facility Hospice at Jerusalem in order to continue to provide needed health and medical services to the Palestinians in the city,

"17. Also calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to take immediate steps for the return of all displaced Arab and Palestinian inhabitants to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, in implementation of Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

"18. Urges international organizations, including the specialized agencies, in particular the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization, to continue to examine the educational and health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"19. Reiterates its call upon all States, in particular those States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, in accordance with article 1 of that Convention, and upon international organizations, including the specialized agencies, not to recognize any changes carried out by Israel, the occupying Power, in the occupied territories and to avoid actions, including those in the field of aid, that might be used by Israel in its pursuit of the policies of annexation and colonization or any of the other policies and practices referred to in the present resolution,

"20. Urges all the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to respond to the inquiry submitted to them by the Secretary-General in accordance with paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990,

"21. Requests the Special Committee, pending early termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories

occupied by Israel since 1967, to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter,

"22. Also requests the Special Committee to submit regularly periodic reports to the Secretary-General on the present situation in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"23. Further requests the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of prisoners in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"24. Condemns Israel's refusal to permit persons from the occupied Palestinian territory to appear as witnesses before the Special Committee and to participate in conferences and meetings held outside the occupied Palestinian territory,

"25. Condemns Israel's latest attack against the Sharia Islamic Court in occupied Jerusalem on 18 November 1991, when Israeli forces took away important documents and papers,

"26. Demands that Israel, the occupying Power, return immediately all documents and papers that were taken away from the Sharia Islamic Court in occupied Jerusalem, to the officials of the said Court,

"27. Requests the Secretary-General:

"(a) To provide all necessary facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

"(b) To continue to make available such additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

"(c) To circulate regularly and periodically the reports mentioned in paragraph 21 above to the States Members of the United Nations;

"(d) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to

reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

"(e) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

"28. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled 'Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories'.

"B

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, in which, inter alia, the Council affirmed that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 1/ is applicable to the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem,

"Recalling also Security Council resolutions 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990, 673 (1990) of 24 October 1990 and 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990,

"Recalling further its resolutions 3092 A (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973, 3240 B (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, 3525 B (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 31/106 B of 16 December 1976, 32/91 A of 13 December 1977, 33/113 A of 18 December 1978, 34/90 B of 12 December 1979, 35/122 A of 11 December 1980, 36/147 A of 16 December 1981, 37/88 A of 10 December 1982, 38/79 B of 15 December 1983, 39/95 B of 14 December 1984, 40/161 B of 16 December 1985, 41/63 B of 3 December 1986, 42/160 B of 8 December 1987, 43/58 B of 6 December 1988, 44/48 B of 8 December 1989 and 45/74 B of 11 December 1990,

"Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 2/

"Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

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1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

2/ S/19443, S/21919 and Corr. 1, S/22472 and A/46/440.

"Bearing in mind the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention,

"Noting that Israel and the concerned Arab States whose territories have been occupied by Israel since June 1967 are parties to that Convention,

"Taking into account that States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention undertake, in accordance with article 1 thereof, not only to respect but also to ensure respect for the Convention in all circumstances,

"1. Reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"2. Condemns once again the failure of Israel, the occupying Power, to acknowledge the applicability of the Convention to the territories it has occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem;

"3. Strongly demands that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention and comply with its provisions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"4. Urgently calls upon all States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for and compliance with its provisions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

"C

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Security Council resolutions 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990, 673 (1990) of 24 October 1990 and 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990,

"Recalling also its resolutions 32/5 of 28 October 1977, 33/113 B of 18 December 1978, 34/90 C of 12 December 1979, 35/122 B of 11 December 1980, 36/147 B of 16 December 1981, 37/88 B of 10 December 1982, 38/79 C of 15 December 1983, 39/95 C of 14 December 1984, 40/161 C of 16 December 1985, 41/63 C of 3 December 1986, 42/160 C of 8 December 1987, 43/58 C of 6 December 1988, 44/48 C of 8 December 1989 and 45/74 C of 11 December 1990,

"Expressing grave anxiety and concern at the serious situation prevailing in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, as a result of the continued Israeli occupation and the measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of those territories,

"Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 1/

"Confirming that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 2/ is applicable to all occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"1. Determines that all such measures and actions taken by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 are in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, constitute a serious obstacle to the efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East and therefore have no legal validity;

1/ S/19443, S/21919 and Corr.1, S/22472 and A/46/441.

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

"2. Strongly deplores the persistence of Israel in carrying out such measures, in particular the establishment of settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"3. Demands that Israel comply strictly with its international obligations in accordance with the principles of international law and the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention;

"4. Demands once more that Israel, the occupying Power, desist forthwith from taking any action that would result in changing the legal status, geographical nature or demographic composition of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"5. Urgently calls upon all States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention to respect and to exert all efforts in order to ensure respect for and compliance with its provisions in all occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

"D

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Security Council resolution 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987,

"Recalling also its resolutions 38/79 A of 15 December 1983, 39/95 A of 14 December 1984, 40/161 A of 16 December 1985, 41/63 A of 3 December 1986, 42/160 A of 8 December 1987, 43/21 of 3 November 1988, 43/58 D of 6 December 1988, 44/2 of 6 October 1989, 44/48 D of 8 December 1989 and 45/74 D of 11 December 1990,

"Taking note of the reports 1/ of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,

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1/ A/46/65, A/46/282 and A/46/522.

"Taking note also of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 1/

"1. Deplores the arbitrary detention or imprisonment by Israel of thousands of Palestinians as a result of their resistance to occupation in order to attain self-determination;

"2. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to release all Palestinians and other Arabs arbitrarily detained or imprisoned;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly as soon as possible but not later than the beginning of its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

"E

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling Security Council resolutions 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, 607 (1988) of 5 January 1988, 608 (1988) of 14 January 1988, 636 (1989) of 6 July 1989, 641 (1989) of 30 August 1989, 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990, 673 (1990) of 24 October 1990, 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990 and 694 (1991) of 24 May 1991,

"Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 2/

"Alarmed by the continuing deportation of Palestinians from the occupied Palestinian territory by the Israeli authorities,

"Recalling the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 3/ in particular article 1 and the first paragraph of article 49, which read as follows:

1/ S/19443, S/21919 and Corr. 1 and A/46/442.

2/ S/19443, S/21919 and Corr. 1, S/22472 and A/46/443.

3/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

"Article 1

"The High Contracting Parties undertake to respect and to ensure respect for the present Convention in all circumstances."

"Article 49

"Individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the occupying Power or to that of any other country, occupied or not, are prohibited, regardless of their motive ...",

"Reaffirming the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"1. Strongly deplores the continuing disregard by Israel, the occupying Power, of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and resolutions of the General Assembly;

"2. Demands that the Government of Israel, the occupying Power, rescind the illegal measures taken by its authorities in deporting Palestinians and that it facilitate their immediate return;

"3. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to cease forthwith the deportation of Palestinians and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly as soon as possible but not later than the beginning of its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

"F

"The General Assembly,

"Deeply concerned that the Arab territories occupied since 1967 have been under continued Israeli military occupation,

"Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

"Recalling also its resolutions 36/226 B of 17 December 1981, ES-9/1 of 5 February 1982, 37/88 E of 10 December 1982, 38/79 F of 15 December 1983, 39/95 F of 14 December 1984, 40/161 F of 16 December 1985, 41/63 F of 3 December 1986, 42/160 F of 8 December 1987, 43/21 of 3 November 1988, 43/58 F of 6 December 1988, 44/2 of 6 October 1989, 44/48 F of 8 December 1989 and 45/74 of 11 December 1990,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 11 September 1991, 1/

"Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 3414 (XXX) of 5 December 1975 , 31/61 of 9 December 1976, 32/20 of 25 November 1977, 33/28 and 33/29 of 7 December 1978, 34/70 of 6 December 1979 and 35/122 E of 11 December 1980, in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories and to withdraw from all those territories,

"Reaffirming once more the illegality of Israel's decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

"Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under the Charter of the United Nations and that all territories thus occupied by Israel must be returned,

"Recalling the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 2/

"Reaffirming the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the occupied Syrian Golan,

"Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 January 1967,

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1/ A/46/444.

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75. No. 973.

"1. Strongly condemns Israel, the occupying Power, for its refusal to comply with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, particularly Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Arab Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, should rescind forthwith its decision;

"2. Condemns the persistence of Israel in changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan;

"3. Determines that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and have no legal effect;

"4. Strongly condemns Israel for its attempts forcibly to impose Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian Citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls upon it to desist from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

"5. Deplores the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

"6. Calls once again upon Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution."

"G

"The General Assembly,

"Bearing in mind the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 1/

"Deeply concerned at the continued and intensified harassment by Israel, the occupying Power, directed against educational institutions in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"Recalling Security Council resolutions 605 (1987) of 22 December 1987, 672 (1990) of 12 October 1990, 673 (1990) of 24 October 1990 and 681 (1990) of 20 December 1990,

"Recalling also its resolutions 38/79 G of 15 December 1983, 39/95 G of 14 December 1984, 40/161 G of 16 December 1985, 41/63 G of 3 December 1986, 42/160 G of 8 December 1987, 43/21 of 3 November 1988, 43/58 G of 6 December 1988, 44/2 of 6 October 1989, 44/48 G of 8 December 1989 and 45/74 G of 11 December 1990,

"Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 2/

"Taking note also of the relevant decisions adopted by the executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization concerning the educational and cultural situation in the occupied Palestinian territory,

"1. Reaffirms the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"2. Condemns Israeli policies and practices against Palestinian students and faculty members in schools, universities and other educational institutions in the occupied Palestinian territory, especially the opening of fire on defenceless students, causing many casualties;

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

2/ S/19443, S/21919 and Corr. 1, S/22472 and A/46/445.

"3. Also condemns the systematic Israeli campaign of repression against and closing of universities, schools and other educational and vocational institutions in the occupied Palestinian territory, in large numbers and for prolonged periods, restricting and impeding the academic activities of Palestinian universities by subjecting the selection of courses, textbooks and educational programmes, the admission of students and the appointment of faculty members to the control and supervision of the military occupation authorities, in flagrant contravention of the Fourth Geneva Convention;

"4. Demands that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with the provisions of that Convention, rescind all actions and measures taken against all educational institutions, ensure the freedom of those institutions and refrain forthwith from hindering the effective operation of the universities, schools and other educational institutions;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly as soon as possible but not later than the beginning of its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution."

VI. EUROPEAN COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTES $16.7 MILLION TO UNRWA FOR GAZA HOSPITAL

The following press release was issued by UNRWA on 11 December 1991:

> "The Commission of the European Communities has decided to contribute ECU 13 million ($16.7 million) towards the cost of a 232-bed general hospital in the Gaza Strip, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Ilter Turkmen, announced today. 'This pledge comes at a critical time, since it will enable UNRWA to provide urgently needed medical services to an under-served population,' Mr. Turkmen said.
>
> " The European Community contribution means that UNRWA will be able to undertake construction of the 232-bed hospital near Khan Younis in the southern part of the Gaza Strip. Final design will be completed in mid-1992 and construction will start in late 1992. The hospital is scheduled to open in autumn 1994.

"No major hospital construction has taken place in Gaza since 1967. Gaza has a rapidly increasing Palestinian population, now totalling over 750,000, of whom more than 500,000 are Palestine refugees. Health conditions have deteriorated in recent years and the demand for medical care has increased dramatically. The UNRWA project will increase by over 20 per cent the number of hospital beds available to Gaza residents.

"In the past, UNRWA has provided out-patient facilities for Palestine refugees. Construction of the hospital will give Gaza residents easier access to medical care by increasing out-patient facilities, reducing overcrowding in wards and upgrading health-care standards. It will provide essential hospital care at a cost which will be much lower than the rates charged by government hospitals for the majority of Palestinians who have no medical insurance.

"The total estimated cost of the Gaza hospital project is about $35 million. Of this, $20 million is for construction, equipment and related expenses. The remaining $15 million is needed to staff and operate the hospital for the first three years.

"In announcing the EC contribution, Mr. Turkmen said: 'These funds will enable the Agency to move towards construction as soon as the architectural design and engineering work are completed. I hope that further contributions will be forthcoming to enable the project to be completed on time. The construction work will also provide employment opportunities for Palestinians unable to find work in the present difficult socio-economic circumstances in Gaza.'

"The combined contributions of the EC and its member States make the Community the largest single donor to UNRWA's regular budget. In 1991, these contributions amounted to more than $100 million. The Community also responded quickly to UNRWA's appeal for emergency funds in the aftermath of the Gulf War.

" 'This contribution to the Gaza hospital project is a very generous gesture by the EC towards improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territory,' Commissioner-General Turkmen said."
(see PAL/1771)

VII. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

In the course of December, the following information was received by the Division for Palestinian Rights:

1. ICCP Newsletter No. 39, available from: the International Coordinating Committee for NGOs on the Question of Palestine, 150, route de Ferney, Case postale 2100, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland.

2. A Palestinian Perspective on the Peace Process, publication of the Centre for Policy Analysis on Palestine. Available from 2435 Virginia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

3. Report of All India Conference on Palestinian Rights. Souvenir publication of the conference held on 14 and 15 December at Hyderabad, organized by the Indo-Arab Islamic Youth Association. Available from Post Box 1322, Malakpet, Hyderabad, 500-036, India.

4. News from Within, independent newsletter, availiable from: Alternative Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

5. Middle East International, bi-weekly publication, available from: P.O. Box 53365, Temple Heights Station, Washington, D.C. 20009, United States of America.

6. UNRWA Report, available from P.O. Box 700, A-1400 Vienna, Austria.

7. Challenge, Magazine of the Israeli left. Available from: P.O. Box 14338, Tel Aviv 61142, Israel.

8. Another Viewpoint, commentary available from: AVP, 604 Barbera Place, Davis, California 95616, United States of America.

9. The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, Monthly publication available from: P.O. Box 53062, Washington, D.C. 20009, United States of America.

10. Newsletter on Freedom of the Press, issued monthly by the Forum of Action for Freedom of the Press and the Re-opening of Derech Hanitzotz/Tarik Al Sharana. Available from: P.O. Box 1575, Jerusalem.

11. The Other Front, Weekly bulletin on development in Israeli society, available from: The Alternative Information Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

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